embankments constructed in such a way that the water in the river might become available both in the hot weather and rainy season.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

91. Improvement of the means of communication in the Muvattupuzha taluk.

Mr. Thariathu Kunjithomman (Member, Muvattupuzha taluk) explained that the geographical position of the taluk was such that the people were at a disadvantage in regard to means of communication either by road or by backwater. The Muvattupuzha river would be useless for 8 months of the year for purposes of navigation, as there would be no water. For the remaining months the river would be in high flood and the current would be so strong as to render the use of boats dangerous. The roads too would be slushy during the rainy season. Thus, the people were being put to considerable hardship. If at least the main roads could be metalled, it should give some relief to the inhabitants. So far as Group II comprising the northern *pakuthies* of the taluk was concerned, there was not a single road. The Member, therefore, urged—

(1) the conversion of the 6 feet trace from Kothamangalam to Vazhakulam into a road, and

(2) Government taking up for maintenance the road from the Kothamangalam–Devicolam road, 3rd mile to Kulangattumuzhi and the road from Kothamangalathangadi to Nadukani. The last two items of roads were carried out by the people.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

92. Improvement to the Erattupetta-Pala road and the construction of certain culverts and bridges.

Mr. J. R. Vincent (Member, Mundakayam Planters' Association) represented that the Palai-Erattupetta road and the Rani-Manimala road which were being used by the neighbouring Estates throughout the year for bringing rice, provisions, etc., for the coolies, were not fit for traffic for about 6 months in the year and were not properly maintained by the Public Works Department. He requested that the two roads should be metalled, culverts and bridges being constructed wherever necessary. It would suffice if an increased grant to get the two roads metalled as first class roads be sanctioned.

The Member next referred to the necessity for a good cartable road from Cheruvalli to Vellanadi and said that an estimate had been prepared for its construction. The amount estimated for the construction of the road would not be deemed too high to be spent during 1095. As the subject had been urged before the Assembly on three occasions, he prayed that the road might be constructed at a very early date.

He also requested that the Erattupetta-Teakoi road which passed through the thickly populated and fertile places should be taken up and maintained by Government with bridges and culverts wherever necessary.

Dewan's reply.—The representation of the Member will be referred to the Chief Engineer.

93. Means of communication in the Thodupuzha taluk.

Mr. K. Sankara Iyer (Member, Thodupuzha taluk) urged the improvement and metalling of the following roads:—

(1) The Lalam-Thodupuzha road and the Kuthattukulam-Thodupuzha road.

(2) The road from Kothamangalam which passes through Kotikulam, Muttam &c., should be joined on to Puzhagu.

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(3) A new road should be constructed from road No. 2 to the Periyar road *via*, Velliamattom on the lines now pegged out.

(4) A bridge over the Thodupuzha river near the Taluk Cutcherry should be constructed.

Dewan's reply.—In regard to the bridge, the Chief Engineer has been asked to prepare an estimate of cost. The other representations are noted.

The Assembly adjourned at 5 P. M.

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